

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 15, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 26, 2006

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 27, 2006

SENATE BILL

No. 1528

Introduced by Senator Bowen

February 23, 2006

An act to add and repeal Section 14132.38 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1528, as amended, Bowen. Medi-Cal: covered services: pregnancy.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Services and under which qualified low-income persons receive health care benefits, including certain perinatal services.

This bill would provide that home infusion treatments with tocolytic agents for pregnant women are covered under the Medi-Cal program, subject to ~~utilization controls and clinical guidelines~~ *utilization controls and guidelines or protocols, as prescribed*, until January 1, 2010. The bill would require the department, by October 1, 2009, to prepare, or contract for the preparation of, a report evaluating the medical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of these treatments, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 14132.38 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

14132.38. (a) Home infusion treatments with tocolytic agents for pregnant women shall be covered under this chapter, subject to utilization controls and clinical guidelines. *chapter. This coverage shall be subject to both of the following:*

(1) *Utilization controls.*

(2) *Clinical guidelines or protocols as outlined in peer-reviewed professional journals.*

(b) By October 1, 2009, the department shall prepare, or contract for the preparation of, a report evaluating the medical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of infusion treatments with tocolytic agents. The report shall determine, to the extent possible, changes in the health, birth weight, and length of term for newborns using tocolytic treatments, and shall provide a comparison to a representative control population that does not use tocolytic treatments. The report shall include a summary of peer-reviewed research findings on the effectiveness of tocolytic agents in the medical literature.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2010, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2010, deletes or extends that date.